

CIVIL SERVICE
news

U.S. CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

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FOR RELEASE:

ADVANCE FOR WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON NEWSPAPERS, NOVEMBER 18,
NOT TO BE USED BY PRESS, RADIO, OR TV BEFORE
6:30 A.M., EST, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1970.

Despite reductions in total Federal employment, 14,000 Vietnam era veterans were appointed to Federal civilian jobs in the first 6 months of 1970, Robert E. Hampton, Chairman of the U.S. Civil Service Commission, announced today.

The majority of these veterans were employed through regular civil service competitive procedures which provide preference for veterans. However, over 1,400 were hired under special Vietnam Readjustment Appointments authorized by an Executive order issued by President Nixon earlier this year.

Under VRA procedures, honorably discharged veterans with no more than 14 years of education are eligible during the first year following their separation from service or release from hospitalization for appointment to Federal jobs at grades 3 through 5 without going through the competitive process.

The veteran and the employing agency work out a training program related to the veteran's interests and the agency's needs. After 2 years, if the veteran's performance has been satisfactory and he has fulfilled his training agreement, he is given a career or career-conditional appointment.

Chairman Hampton reported to Donald E. Johnson, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, that the Veterans Administration led all Federal agencies with 453 VRA appointments. Other leading agencies included Navy with 149, Army with 142, Health, Education, and Welfare with 121, and Post Office with 114.

Mr. Johnson served as Chairman of the President's Committee on the Vietnam Veteran, which produced recommendations that led to the Executive order issued by President Nixon. Chairman Hampton was a member of that Committee.

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